

THE BURMA NEWS

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FROM THE AMERICAN BAPTIST MISSIONS IN BURMA AND ASSAM

THE BURMA NEWS

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No. 10

"A Living Witness"

A young man after accompanying a group who went to preach in the bazaar to-day, dropped in for a personal conversation with me and I want to share with you some of the exhilaration the story I drew from him, gave me.

When a small boy he lived in a wealthy home being the son of a village headman in the Kengtung State. His father died and his mother did not feel happy to stay on there so she sold all their possessions and travelled from place to place to worship at some new shrine. At last she settled in Mongnai state and after hearing the Gospel of Christ, she was so satisfied with all it held out to her weary hungering heart, she became an ardent believer and went on trips to outside villages with Dr. and Mrs. Gibbens when they called her to go.

At that time her son was in a monastery learning the law of Buddha. He was then 16 years old and an unusually earnest boy I judge. After her baptism she called him home and told him all that had come into her life and said that he should leave the monastery and study to become a Christian. He was much displeased but heard her earnest teaching day by day until his faith weakened in his old teachings and he seemed to have no religious foundations. He then took the Bible with its new teachings to a Buddhist priest asking him to show where it was wrong and the more he studied it,

the more he believed in a living God. Finally, to the great disgust of the priest, he definitely chose Christ and His way and became a member of the church. During the time between his monastery life and his acceptance of Christianity, he was working as a carpenter doing odd jobs for the Sawbwa who is tolerant enough to keep him on although many chiefs in his situation would have sent him away at once after his acceptance of Christianity. And now this young man has a wonderful opportunity to bear witness to his new faith. Often the Sawbwa calls him from his work and tries him out by questions that he would not ask a person who has always belonged to the church lest he offend. For instance, "Boy, come and tell me this: When you followed our religion you prayed and made offerings to evil spirits. Why have you stopped it now? Do you not believe in them any more?" "Yes sir, I believe that they exist but I never asked them for anything good. My prayer was always that they do me no more evil and they kept tormenting me so as to make me worship them more. Now I worship a loving God and make my offerings to Him because He seeks my good always and He wants to protect me from evil, so I pay no homage to evil spirits and do not fear them."

"But tell me about the idols. You worshipped them and depended upon

them all those years. Is it right to slight them now?" "Yes sir, for they know nothing and never did anything for me. Why should I worship a lifeless thing when the Creator of all things calls me?" The Sawbwa then called him a silly boy but apparently thought over the matter.

He told me of many, many conversations along this line and his answers were well thought out and expressed with coolness and conviction. He showed me his note book with Bible references on these subjects of discussion. Once the Sawbwa called him and told him to take Rs. 20, disguise himself so that Christians would not know him in case he should be seen, and gamble with it. (The young man had been an expert gambler as the Sawbwa knew). He was to bring back his winnings. But our young man steadfastly refused saying that he now did not take other people's money for nothing. He would not gamble, and he was not sent away even for this. So we can see that he is being tested out and having opportunities to bear witness that any earnest Christian might covet for himself.

I have been thinking what an uplift it would be if this town could have even fifty young people with such an experience as this young man, bearing witness to a living faith in God as they go about the work of each day, while they earn their living with no thought of money from either Home Mission or Foreign Mission treasuries entering into their support. This young man has the privilege of living in a Christian village and can get help from leaders in the little church; yet his days are spent among non-Christians who are watching his actions and judging both them and his words. How we need to uphold such with prayer and sympathy!

Cora M. Henderson.

Vacation Evangelism

The long rainy season of school over to-day. The Gospel Team has just gone down the hill full of boys singing to the beating of the bass drum. They are off to work at Shwegyin this vacation. Other teams are going in various other directions. To-morrow three or four groups are starting out in primitive New Testament style walking with neither purse nor script and they plan to visit and testify as they go from village to village. One group intends to keep on till they get home to Toungoo; others will go as far as Henzada and Tharrawaddy. When they heard that money was scarce, they were not daunted but offered to save the price of car-fare and walk. This is putting themselves into the Gospel in deed. We hope those who read these lines will strengthen them with their prayers.

Along all lines there seems to be an increasing interest in a vital living message. There have been many new contacts made this season by the various members of the seminary and both in the city of Rangoon and in other places there seems to be a real desire for something that satisfies the soul. Seminary students and staff will this month of October be carrying the message all the way from Myitkyina to Tavoy. This is the Lord's work and it is marvelous in our eyes.

H. I. Marshall



Organ Available

A folding Estey organ, belonging to the Sagaing mission, is not now in use, as I have a new one. Anyone who would like the use of this organ can have it, until such time as the missionary here would want it. It is in quite good repair, and has a sweet tone. Please let me know as soon as possible if you are interested.

Frieda Peters

Harper Memorial Hospital

The Harper Memorial is finished. At least the building account is closed. I suppose we will never get done making additions and corrections—especially the latter. I already wish we could make some changes. I would like lots more private sections for native patients. I am not a scientific builder like Mr. Latta. I cannot tell you what this building weighs, though I can warn you not to let it fall on you too suddenly. But as far as I know, this is the first undertaking at building anything as gigantic as this hospital at any considerable distance from the rail or steamship lines. This is certainly true for the mission, and maybe for the Government as well, so a comparison of costs of building in Namkham with buildings elsewhere in our mission may reveal interesting facts to those who have built.

As an introduction, one may remind you that a government estimate of the total cost of the complete building was one lac without equipment or Rs. 120,000 with. Having avoided money grasping contractors, we have not only been able to avoid waste of materials and the use of weaker mortars and cements than advisable, but have also kept the total cost of the complete building partly equipped down to a total of Rs. 70,101. This means we have made a profit of anywhere from 30 to 40 thousand rupees.

Being a doctor and not an accountant, I may have made some small errors in dividing out the separate costs of different items, but you had better be thankful I haven't robbed the mission of thousands of rupees trying to build a hospital with one hand and run a hospital with the other. And the building has not run us into a cent of debt.

The first point of interest is that we paid absolutely nothing for stone which was used in building, but we

spent Rs. 16,000 on hauling stone from the rivers and civilized supplies from Lashio—almost one-fourth of the entire cost. Cement costs Rs. 30 per barrel here.

We spent Rs. 23,000 for carpenters, one mason, and coolies. That's about normal, isn't it? We paid Rs. 9,000 for jungle lumber and almost Rs. 2,000 for teak. Cement came to Rs. 3,400, mortar materials were Rs. 6,000, hardware Rs. 1,800, reinforcing metal, etc. Rs. 500, roof Rs. 3,000, electricity Rs. 800, and miscellanies Rs. 1,600. These are all round numbers. The turbo-dynamo outfit is not listed above. That came separate. We plumbed the hospital for Rs. 2,300 and have running cold water, Japanese flushing bath-rooms—four of them—and one English bathroom. We have a world's record for carrying two gigantic sheets of plate glass for our operating room for 130 miles in a lorry over the Namkham-Lashio road without breaking. The floor of the operating room is Rockbond—better than cement or tile, or even marble. The operating room lighting system is home-made, but a howling success when it doesn't blow the fuses in the middle of an operation like it did night before last—the howling comes after the fuses blow.

There is also a small dining room and kitchen for nurses in a separate stone building. The upper floor of the hospital is teak, the lower cement. There are three private rooms for Europeans which are never filled! There is one fireplace. Four private rooms for natives are not sufficient so two others give semi-privacy. We have wasted a lot of money making mistakes due to inexperience, and we are all glad it is over. Hooray!

Gordon S. Seagrave.

Annual Workers' Class at Maubin

The annual class for our workers was held this year a little earlier than usual, from September 13 to 23 inclusive. There were enrolled 49 men and 32 women from 23 of our 42 churches. The average attendance at each of the study sessions was 32.7 or 64% of the men and 17.5 or 53% of the women. 5 men were present every session; 3 missed but one session; 30 were fairly regular in their attendance.

Mr. Conrad and S'ra Shwe Ba from Bassein and Sayamas Ma Hannah and Ma Stella from Rangoon were our outside helpers this year, and their help was very much appreciated by all. The morning devotional talks given by Mr. Conrad and S'ra Shwe Ba were well attended and proved a real uplift spiritually. Mr. Conrad gave a course on The Sermon on the Mount, and the pastors especially enjoyed his lessons on Sermonizing and Bible Study Methods. S'ra Shwe Ba and S'ra Toe Khut reviewed two very helpful books, "Rivers of Living Water" and "The Dynamic of Service." The writer took James and 1 John, in outline analysis; James was reviewed from the standpoint of faith rather than works and in 1 John the analysis centered around the key words of the letter.

Child training, health talks and daily vacation Bible schools were interestingly taught by Sayamas Hannah and Stella. Ma Thein May from the Burmese Bible School, English Department, was a great help in training the Gospel Team for their pageant and also for their other work. Our own Bible women, Ma Hta Yin and Ma Thein May, gave three lessons each to the women, on the Women of the Bible and the call, training and work of a Bible woman.

The evening sessions were varied. Association business, pageants, in-

spirational addresses and a closing concert made each evening pass very profitably and pleasantly. S'ra Shwe Ba's address on Wednesday evening was listened to with enthusiastic attention as he spoke on the awakening of the Pwo Karens on the Bassein field, and gave most valuable suggestions as to how it was brought about. We feel sure that our people are returning to their village work with renewed consecration because of the many helpful and inspiring messages of these eleven days on the Mountain-top and we do trust an awakening on our Maubin field will come in the not distant future.

At the close of the sessions we had an examination on the different courses taught. Twenty-three of the pastors, evangelists and Bible women entered and fourteen were successful. S'ra Ton Gyi, evangelist, stood highest, 92%; Sramu Mai E second, 79% and Saw Ba Tun, one of our lay workers, came third. The results were more encouraging than last year when only three passed. We hope next year will see still better results.

Sunday September 18, was "The Kingdom of God Movement in Burma" day when representatives from all the churches—Burmese, S'gaw and Pwo, in the vicinity of Maubin met with us. The discussions at the afternoon meeting showed that our people are beginning to wake up to a sense of the great task awaiting them on this large Maubin field. All the work of the two weeks was an inspiration to this.

We were glad to have Mrs. Conrad and little Florence with us during the second week. Now we shall be looking forward to the visit of Dr. Robbins the first of November and when that is over, touring will be the order of the days for the next five months.

M. B. Pound.

Two Interesting Letters

We are pleased to give two letters from indigenous workers which were received by Rev. H. E. Hinton, of Mandalay district. The letters are reproduced without correction of any sort.—*Ed.*

Dear Sayagyi:—

I am very glad to write and tell you what I have done in the evangelic work with my co-workers in the following places:—

At Lethit village in Myingyan district we had a vacation school, opening Bible and sewing classes, and helping the sick with medicines.

In Meiktila I spent about 15 days. There I met a good lot of Chinese and Burmans who were eager to listen the Gospel in the course of my preaching.

At Yemethin and Pyawbwe too, I have had a good time with many listeners, telling them about Christ and His saving power.

In Mandalay I spent most of my time in visiting the Chinese Christians. On Sunday previous to the last, at worshipping service, I had an audience of 17 attendances. After the service, I had the opportunity of administering the Lord's Supper.

My next touring programme is drawn that my co-workers and I go to Pyawbwe village in Myingyan district to open another vacation school. On our return, I shall find my work at Yenangyaung and Toungdwingyi where I hope to meet with some Chinese and Burmans who may welcome the preaching of the Gospel. After that we shall find ourselves at Sale, opening another vacation school, and preaching the Gospel in the township for about a month. There are six Chinamen in Myingyan who are taking deep thoughts in Christianity, and I hope they will be ready for baptism in no long a time, for they have destroyed all sorts of materials, such as papers, cloths, sacrifices etc.

in connection with devil worships. So we need to pour forth our ardent prayers to God so that He may guide them till they see the full view of His power and mercy for them through Christ the Saviour.

With best wishes to you and Mama Hinton.

Yours in Christ,

D. E. Hwe,
*Chinese Evangelist,
Upper Burma.*

Rev. and dear Sir,

I am very glad to let you know about my evangalic work which was done by me since the month of June to September in Mandalay town.

There were more than twenty Indian Telugu Christians in Payagi and ten were in the town. We had meetings in every Sunday at Payagi (near Shanzu Post Office). Where more than thirty peoples use to come for the meeting including hindus. And also we had prayer meetings in every Thursday in the same place.

I am spending most of my time in visiting the Indian Christians and hindus in several places, called Payaga, Poohanabasthi, River Shore, and some other places where the Indians were put up. These people were all coolies and some of them can read and write.

According to your programme I am going out every day for preaching with the books also. I sold more than three hundred village series books to the hindus and Christians at the rate of one pice each. And also fifty copies of children's friend to fifty people at the rate of one and half annas per copy for the year. So in every month I am visiting fifty people by means of distributing these copies and I use to preach something about Christ and His Light I found that it was the best method for preaching Gospel.

There five hindus in Payagi and two were in Poohanabasthy were ready to

take baptism in any time in this month. I taught them about the ten commandments and about baptism. I found that they were entirely stopped to worship the stones, and other devils.

Lastly I am trying my level best to raise the subscription for the sake of building a small church for the Telugu Christians in Payagi. So we are requesting you to report this matter to the higher authorities in Rangoon.

With best wishes to you and Mamma Hinton.

Yours in Christ,

A. Abraham,

A. B. M. Telugu Preacher,
Mandalay.



Baptist English High School Evangelistic Meetings

The first week of September was set aside as "Decision Week" in standards 6 to 10. Definite preparations were carried out for this effort, such as Staff Prayer Meetings, Student Prayer Groups and later Staff and Student Prayer Groups. Back of all this of course was the year's teaching in the Bible classes. The results were a logical sequence of an educational evangelism. All attempts at spasmodic or high-tension methods were studiously avoided. The decisions were made on the closing day of the special talks by the pastor, and we are grateful to report the following results: decisions to accept Christ—twenty-three; reconsecrations—thirty-three. Four other lads from this department accepted Christ at Immanuel Sunday School.

Frank E. Eden.



"Hear as little as you possibly can to the prejudice of others; believe nothing of the kind unless you are forced to believe it; never circulate, nor approve of those who circulate, loose reports; moderate as far as you can the censure of others; always believe that if the other side were heard a very different account would be given of the matter."

—Everyday Christian Life, Dean Farrar.

Prome Rejoices

Dr. and Mrs. Roach are back in Prome. I do not know who is happier about it: they or the people to whom they have come.

As I faced the assembly on their big veranda, I could not help studying their faces. I saw mostly Burmans but I also saw Chins, Karens, Indians and Chinese. They were sitting side by side and I thought who but Christ could cause them to come together thus. Some were old and some were very young—the youngest being the son of the Telugu teacher. Some were teachers and preachers and some were carriers of water and hewers of wood—but all were Christians. A large number of them from a village two miles away have become so within the last two years.

The pastor led the service and two others spoke besides Mr. and Mrs. Roach. The teachers sang two numbers. The meeting was all the happier because at one time it looked as though Dr. and Mrs. Roach would be sent to Henzada, and then there was a possibility of them being detained at home because of the depression; so everyone felt that the Heavenly Father who sees all places and all needs had indeed richly blessed the Prome field some parts of which seem soil specially prepared for the sowing of the seeds of the Gospel. As you are led by the Spirit pray for us here that we may expect great things from God and venture greatly for Him.

Ida W. Davis.



"A man should never be ashamed to say he has been in the wrong, which is but saying, in other words, that he is wiser to-day than he was yesterday."

—Pope.

"Be wary and keep cool. A cool head is as necessary as a warm heart. In any negotiations, steadiness and coolness are invaluable; while they will often carry you in safety through times of danger and difficulty."

—Lord Avebury.

Successful Workers' Institute

The Twelfth Annual Workers' Institute at Pyinmana September 20 to 30 brought together an earnest group of Christian workers from many parts of Burma and the number registered came to 163, of whom 62 were women. Methodist and Wesleyan workers were represented as well as Baptists. A splendid spirit of seeking for power to be of greater service was present.

Mr. Hanna's course on the relationship of the geography of Palestine to God's teaching of Israel was a unique approach in Bible study. Mr. Condict's course gave many practical suggestions on preparing the soil for a spiritual harvest in village evangelism. His experiences among the Chins in opening the eyes, ears and hearts were suggestive for work among Burmans and others races. To help the general good feeling in our community, he pulled about 150 teeth while at the Institute, and since his departure, people have come asking for more teeth to be pulled. We hope to organize a tooth-pulling brigade of preachers as soon as we get enough instruments at a reduced price. Ma Hanna roused the workers with new desire to attempt more Vacation Bible Schools and some told of their experiences in helping adults in addition to the children by having specific classes on rural uplift for adults.

Some of the most helpful suggestions came from the visitors who told of their experiences in successful attempts at village uplift and the discussions about these. In one of these, the Burmans and Chins were much interested to learn how the Bassein Karens developed their village schools and churches on a self-supporting basis.

The lecturers from the departments of Government were enthusiastic in the presentation of their subjects and appreciated the attentiveness of the Christians. The police department

was represented for the first time and a Burman officer gave a stirring talk on how villages can receive protection by forming vigilance societies of 10 or more people to give secret information to the police about the starting of crime or the movement of criminals in their villages. U Mya, our Christian district judge, told of the influence of a Christian home in making up-lifters of Burma as illustrated by his mother consecrating her children to the Lord. The Public Health Department lecturer with the cinema health films attracted much interest. Try to get him for your associations.

The evening concerts, lectures and entertainments filled our hall many evenings and showed an increasing interest by the general public of our town.

There was a keen interest and appreciation on the part of the visitors in the daily trips to see different activities on our farm and also in the out-side trips, some of which were educational and some evangelistic, to the bazaar.

One visitor said "I came expecting there would not be much to learn and a few days would be enough, but I am surprised to find so much more I want to learn." Another said "I want to go home now and show my people what to do and send others here to learn more." One old Karen pastor from Bassein 74 years old said: "What gives me greatest joy here is to see so many different races all working together and loving each other like members of the same family. In Burma where the races are so antagonistic, pray for Pyinmana where they are becoming brothers."

Brayton C. Case.



"Be honest with yourself, whatever the temptation; say nothing to others that you do not think, and play no tricks with your own mind. Of all the evil spirits abroad at this hour in this world, insincerity is the most dangerous."

—J. A. Froude.

Sagaing Salutations

We are very well, thank you, though we have had our share of fevers, and other slight ailments, which come in the natural course of events in a large family. Everyone seems happy, and all are busy at their individual tasks.

A little more than a month ago we had a meeting when the Christians in Sagaing had the opportunity to become acquainted with the four evangelists in this district and their work. The four men were assured that we would remember them in our prayers.

We had another special meeting when quite a number of us went across the river to Tadda U, where one of the evangelists works. This is near the place where Judson was imprisoned, and it is always interesting to wonder what it was like when the places, now in ruins, were inhabited. The work which Judson began, and for which he suffered so much in this place, is still going on in all parts of Burma, but we are led to pray earnestly when we remember how few are following the teachings of the Gospel proclaimed.

Every Saturday afternoon we go to a jungle village, about fifteen miles away, and have a session with the children something on the order of a Daily Vacation Bible School. There are about a hundred children of all sizes in the village, but no school of any kind. At first it was hard for the children to respond to the directions of the teachers, but they are learning. The pastor went out that way one day and heard three or four children sitting under a tree, singing one of the songs the teachers had taught them. A great shout goes up when the car comes in sight, and the children hop up and down, waving their brown legs and arms. I have a small eye clinic where I specialize in administering argyerol to the many sore eyes. Most of the mothers of the small babies are only too willing to have this done, but

the babies set up an awful howl, and cry all the medicine out of their eyes again.

We have our eye on a place where we may have another Saturday afternoon school, but as yet the water is too high. When the nice broad river bank appears, we hope to go to this place also. Those who go with me are the teachers in the school, and sometimes someone else besides. There are not many Christians in Sagaing from among whom we can draw these volunteers. But we have managed to keep going.

We have one outside Sunday School, under the house of a Karen Christian. This morning there were twenty-two present. Most of these children attend no school whatever, though some who live in that district are pupils of this school.

So we go on, rejoicing in the opportunity for service, and praying that we may always be led to walk in the way God would have us go.

Frieda Peter.



League Honors

Friends of the Mission Press will be pleased to learn that our football team has won first place in the B.A.A. Junior League, Third Division. The team went through the league season without a defeat. The cup and medals were presented by His Excellency the Governor on October 3.

Within the Press we have a league of four football teams this year and the competition has been quite keen. A cup for the winners is in hand, and a big dinner awaits the victors. There are prospects of basketball and baseball teams being organized to enter the prospective leagues for the dry season.

Rob't. J. Journey.



"It takes two to speak truth—one to speak and another to hear."

—Thoreau.

Meiktila Message

There were four baptisms in September, one is a fisherman, two were servants on the compound and the last is the daughter of our first water woman, Ma Netta. The daughter's husband has been a Christian some years.

But the most unique thing of the month was the visit of six ladies from Mandalay, Miss Thayer and Miss Reifsneider with a party of four who came down and took charge of us from the Woman's meeting at noon, Saturday, till their departure Sunday afternoon, after the Young People's meeting. Saturday afternoon they visited Thazi. Saya Po Lu with two cars met them at Kungyannyo where an evangelistic meeting was held. Our Sunday school on Sunday was twice the usual size, there being 43 in the Burmese adult and 24 in the English class. Three men came in from the village 18 miles away and several from Shwedaung, from which years ago came our first two Christians from whom are descended Saya Po Lu and Ma Yu of Thazi. We brought in our Omadwe headman but the visit of the Myook at Thapan kept the wife of the headman and one witness away and the others were too far afield to bring. But the room was overflowing with Christians and a few non-Christians.

The Young People's meeting at 1.30, pushed forward from 4 p.m., was only just a little smaller. All who spoke to me were enthusiastic about these meetings and remarked upon the clear enunciation of the speakers. The closing service was especially heart-reaching. I am sure we all feel they were God's messengers of grace to us. We took the three from 18 miles away, home on Tuesday and had breakfast. Over twenty men signed their names as thinkers.

We were glad that four went from Meiktila to the Pinyin Bible and Farm Institute, but sorry not to have sent more.

H. E. Dudley.

TREASURY NOTICES

Those who are going on furlough in the Spring of 1933 should inform the Mission Treasurer as soon as possible, as the bookings on steamers in March and April are very heavy and are filled very early.

Olive A. Hastings,
Mission Treasurer.

Expected Arrivals

October 24, S.S. *Amarapoora*,
Mrs. L. W. Spring,
Mrs. H. E. Dudley and Noel.
November 1, *via India*,
Mr. H. W. Smith,
Mr. J. H. Telford.
November 1, *via Straits*,
Mr. and Mrs. D. O. Smith and family.
November 8, *via Straits*,
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Cummings.
December 5, S.S. *Pegu*,
Dr. and Mrs. Gibbens.

♦ ♦ ♦ Influence

Just as we may ruin our own characters without knowing it, so we may ruin the characters of others. We are always influencing each other—a truth which I have often impressed upon you, because I feel its deep importance. We cannot help ourselves. And this influence, which we thus unconsciously exercise by our mere presence, by look, gesture, expression of face, is probably all the more potent for being unconscious. There are germs of moral health or disease continually passing from us and infecting for good or ill those about us. We read that when our Lord was on earth virtue went out of Him sometimes, and healed the bodies of those who came in contact with it. His Divine humanity was always diffusing a spiritual atmosphere of purity around Him, which attracted, they knew not how, those who came within the sphere of His influence. So it must be with us in so far as our characters are pure and unselfish and Christlike. Our very presence will influence for good all who are near us, making them purer and nobler and more unselfish and shaming what is mean and base out of them. If, on the other hand our characters are ignoble and impure, we shall exude, without knowledge or intending it, a poisonous influence on all who come near us. Have we not sometimes felt this mysterious influence—a presence attracting, perhaps awing, us by some sort of spiritual magnetism; or, on the other hand, repelling us as by the presage of impending danger? Let us endeavour to keep this inalienable responsibility of ours always in our thoughts. And it will be a great help to test ourselves now and then by the example of our Divine Master.

Canon MacColl.

Holy Spirit Outpourings in China

We rejoice with our neighbouring labourers in God's vineyard in China who are experiencing an outpouring of the Holy Spirit. We pray that these letters received during the past month may give us renewed strength and hope for great things in Burma.

—Ed.

Luchang,
Yunnan,
China.

Dear Sirs,

Two or more months ago I wrote to you folks asking you to print and mail to me one thousand copies of Mrs. J. O. Fraser's Lisu Catechism and Hymn Book in western Lisu.

I suppose that you have already received the letter, have books printed and on the way. However I have not yet heard from you in the matter. We are having a real mass movement on up here and it seems to be a real work of the Holy Spirit. This makes such a demand for your books that I feel I should write you and ask you if you received my letter of two or three months ago asking for this thousand catechisms. If you have not printed and mailed the books to me, please do so at the earliest possible date and send the bill for printing to the China Inland Mission, Shanghai, China.

To be without books during a mass movement is like being in a great winning battle and suddenly finding that the ammunition is all used up.

Gladly yours in Christ Jesus our Coming Lord,

T. D. Payne.



"He is faithful that promised." "I will sing unto the Lord, for He hath triumphed gloriously." "Sing forth the honour of His Name: make His praise glorious."

Last year we wrote some of you, asking you to pray that God would revive His work in Hwanghsien.

And now we write to ask you to rejoice with us, for God has answered exceeding abundantly above all that we asked or thought. He has sent us a real Holy Spirit revival! Our hearts are saying: "Who can utter the mighty acts of the Lord?" "Who can show forth all His praise?"

Last year we had two Chinese evangelists with us, who gave us stirring messages and we saw some souls brought in. But this year we have had the most remarkable revival in the history of this work. There has been almost no preaching, no exhorting—only prayer and the silent powerful work of the Holy Spirit. It began with the confession of sins among the missionaries and the Chinese church leaders.

A missionary from another station had, while holding a meeting in an out station, been baptized with the Holy Spirit. We invited him to come here for a few days to tell us about his experience. He was with us nine days. The telling of this experience stirred our hearts, which had long been dissatisfied with our own spiritual state and with the work we were doing. A heart-searching time began, and the result was that the Holy Spirit revealed to us all many things in our hearts which hindered His working through us.

The wonderful promise in Phil. 1:6 "Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ," had been brought to our remembrance about two years ago. And He is faithful that promised. All sorts of sins were brought to light, confessed and forgiveness sought from God and man. Like the king of Nineveh, many of us "arose from his throne laid his robe from him, and covered him with sack cloth, and sat in ashes." Quarrels were made up, restitution made to

God and man, and misunderstandings were healed. Truly from "the failure and disappointment of *our doing*" He has brought miracles of *His doing*." We have been sitting by wondering at the miracles He has wrought.

Meetings lasted five or six hours at a time with nothing but confession of sin, one after another bringing out the hidden as well as the known sins of his life. So deep was the work that hours for eating and sleeping passed by unnoticed. And so "judgment began at the house of God." When sin was faithfully dealt with, and forgiveness received, many were baptized with the Holy Spirit. It is like the story in the book of Acts.

This was during the first two weeks in February. About the middle of February schools opened, and after schedules were arranged, the revival broke out in the girls' school first. Whole nights were spent in prayer and confession of sin. Over a hundred teachers and pupils were forgiven their sin and baptized with the Holy Spirit.

Next came the boys' school. On Sunday, March 13, a Sunday school class met. Upon the recital of God's work in the girl's school the power of God fell upon those boys. Before I reached the building the sound of weeping came to my ears. As I entered the room the students were on their knees crying out to God for mercy. One small boy especially attracted my attention; with eyes closed, and tears streaming down his face, he seemed to be in an agony of conviction of sin. Beating his hands on the seat in front of him, he said: "Lord, I am the chiefest of sinners! Forgive my sins, forgive my sins!" As sin after sin came to mind, he rose and confessed it, or called some school mate for forgiveness for injury done to him. Cases similar to this continued all morning. Many were released and then shouts of victory and

joy went up to the Saviour for His great salvation. All the next morning I could hear small voices near my house singing "Hallelujah, praise the Lord."

"Hallelujah, praise the Lord" is the frequent greeting when Christians meet each other these days.

Two children on their way to school saw the sight of something dark flying across the sky. We'd better pray, they decided. So they knelt down in the road. A cart came along and the muleteer shouted to the children to get out of the way. They moved to one side, though not rising from their knees and continued to pray. The muleteer was filled with wonder at their behaviour and thought they were crazy. They went on to school, and when the teacher entered the room all the pupils in that room were on their knees in tears. The teacher asked them the reason for their crying. "Are you afraid?" she asked. "No, we are sinners and are weeping for our sins," they replied.

The news spread like wildfire and outsiders have been saved and baptized with the Holy Spirit.

Christians have been convicted of the sin of robbing God of the tithe, and have brought in money to pay up the tithes in arrears. One man brought six hundred and more Chinese dollars, a woman returned eighty dollars and a poor paralytic, whose income for a year is about thirty dollars sent in over six dollars as her tithe for the two years she has been a Christian and failed to pay God His tithe.

The revival has been going on for over six weeks. Every week we have had at least one all-night prayer meeting. The Holy Spirit laid on the hearts of the people a great burden for the lost, and they cried out to school mates to repent and confess their sins. These school mates came under conviction and many were

saved. I sat beside one little widow in the womans' school and for a long time watched her as with tear-stained face she poured out her heart to God for the lost. "Oh, Lord," she cried, "wait a year or two before coming to give these people time to repent." Then she prayed for the people all over the world. She cried in agony over the fact that they rejected the Saviour.

The most gratifying thing about it all is the zeal for lost souls which has come to all that have been blessed. Every Saturday afternoon and Sunday the students go out to be His witnesses "beginning at Jerusalem." Young and old seem to feel the responsibility of warning the unsaved that "the kingdom of heaven is at hand." I heard of a movement initiated by the students to ask for a week's holiday to go out and preach to the unsaved. A group of young girls walked ten miles to be at the Sunday service in a large market town. One was the daughter of the evangelist in that place. At the morning service these school girls got up to tell of the great work of the Holy Spirit in the girls' school here. Many of the church members broke down weeping under the burden of sin. All sorts of hidden sins were brought to light. The following Sunday when a group of workers went out to that place, they found the fallow ground already broken up. Since then we have heard that twenty-two in that town have been baptized with the Holy Spirit.

The hospital also received many blessings during these weeks. Several of the personnel received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Among these was the cook who came one morning bringing ten dollars saying "It is not as much as I have stolen but it is all I can pay." He was saved and several days after received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Needless to say things have been different in the kitchen, and instead of the ugly talk-

ing we have heard so often there, it is good to hear exclamations of "Marvellous Saviour."

We believe that we shall yet see the walls of Hwanghsien city down, and Jesus riding in triumph through its streets. Praise His Name. "Come let us exalt His name together."

Florence Lide.

Lucy Wright.

Kwangshien,
Shantung, China.



Parlophone Records

We are offering the following Parlophone Records at Rs. 1-8 to clear the lot. Since there are no more than six records of a title, we suggest you state an alternative choice.

Gavin Mc Nair

1. More about Jesus.
The Prodigal Son.
2. In the Garden.
Christ our Rock.
3. A Pleasant Sunday Evening Pt. I.
A Pleasant Sunday Evening Pt. II.
4. Bridge the Road to Heaven with a Smile.
The old Rugged Cross.
5. Over the Dead Line.
My Mother's Prayer.
6. Jehovah is my Keeper.
I Walk with the King.
7. Just the Same.
No Burdens.

Carson Andres

8. When His Face I See.
That Man from Calvary.
9. He Keepeth His Promise.
A Rainbow on the Cloud.
10. He Lifted Me.
The old Ship Zion.

A. B. M. Press.



"Obstinacy is will asserting itself without being able to justify itself. It is persistence without a plausible motive. It is the tenacity of self-love substituted for the tenacity of reason or conscience."

—Amiel's Journal.

"It is never too late to give up our prejudices."

—Thoreau.

Assam News

Miss Verna Blakeley of Tura sailed from Bombay on August 12, for furlough.

Dr. and Mrs. W. H. Kirby and two daughters are expected to arrive in Calcutta about the middle of October.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Chambers—new appointees to be associated with Mr. and Mrs. Brock in the Jorhat schools are expected in Calcutta on October 18.

Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Holm from the Swedish General Conference for North Bank Kamrup work, will arrive in Calcutta during November.

A number of our missionary family have been ill in the last month or so. Mr. Forbes and Mr. Brock of Jorhat have been down with influenza, Mrs. A. J. Ahlquist in Darjeeling has had altitude sickness, Misses Lewison, Christenson and Nichols have had dengue and Richard Wickstrand has had pneumonia. All are now reported well except Mrs. Ahlquist.

Cold season work in Assam is beginning with a flourish—Bible Classes are under way in Nowgong and will follow in quick succession in the other districts.

The Assam Association meets early in November and the Assam Christian Endeavor Union Convention is scheduled to meet in December.

The Assam Missionary Conference no doubt will be postponed to coincide with the visit of Secretary Robbins.

The Tura July letter states: Tura new school house and the General Society bungalow are both going up. There are six babies in the baby room in the new girls' infirmary. Medical work is increasing: This year up to July 23, 163 inpatients have been cared for, an increase of 60 patients covering the same period last year.

Mr. and Mrs. Harding of Tura celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on June 26. Mr. Nerill had secured the addresses of the Hardings'

friends the world over and letters had been purloined from letter boxes and peons days ahead of the celebration. Beautiful gifts of Indian and other silver were bestowed upon the couple by their many friends. This year also marks the silver anniversary of their years of service to the Garo people. May they long be spared to live and labor among us!

Alice L. Randall.



Complaints against Chettiairs

The Government Agricultural Debtors' Protection Committee is now discussing the question of hardship caused to agricultural debtors by the very great fall in the prices of agricultural produce. Many complaints seem to be current about the attitude taken by the chettiairs in attempting to liquidate many of their loans in these hard times. In all fairness it must be pointed out that the chettiairs have borrowed considerable sums from Rangoon banks and private individuals, and are being pressed for repayment of these debts, and this pressure is largely responsible for their attitude.

Most of the chettiairs are organized into an association, a very intelligent representative of which is on the A. D. P. Committee. He is anxious to investigate cases of undue harshness and alleged dishonesty on the part of chettiairs, in order that the influence of the association may be used to protect the reputation of the chettiairs themselves. Mr. Sidney Loo-Nee has called to his attention a number of cases involving Karens, and these cases are being investigated. If any of you have *first hand* information regarding specific cases of unfair dealings on the part of chettiairs, I should be glad if you would assemble all possible evidence and forward it to me, so that I may pass it on to the proper parties.

J. R. Andrus.

Today? Perhaps!

This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into Heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into Heaven. Acts 1:11.

Therefore be ye also ready for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh. Matt. 24:44.

"So I am watching quietly
Every day.

Whenever the sun shines brightly,

I rise and say,
'Surely it is the shining of His face!'
And look unto the gates of His high
place

Beyond the sea;
For I know He is coming shortly
To summon me.
And when a shadow falls across the
window

Of my room,
Where I am working my appointed
task,
I lift my head to watch the door, and
ask

If He is come;
And the angel answers sweetly,
In my home,
'Only a few more shadows,
And He will come.'"

**For Christmas Gifts**

An ideal gift to young people is the revised edition of *The Pilgrim's Progress*, Part I, which is just being issued. It has an attractive four-coloured cover page and five three-coloured illustrations in the text. The book is published jointly by the Press and the C.L.S. The selling price of As. 12 carries a discount of 25% when ten copies are purchased or when other C. L. S. publications to the number of ten are purchased.

A. B. M. Press.



"As to people saying a few idle words about us, we must not mind that, any more than the old church-steeple minds the rooks cawing about it."

—George Eliot.

Missionaries Are Human

728 Washington Street,
Pella, Iowa, U. S. A.

Dear Assam Burma News,

Now that August has come I am beginning to write Christmas letters to the missionaries in Assam. I always do that when Christmas comes before I have written to them all!

At this writing I am in Minneapolis, Minn. All of my life I had heard that Minneapolis is cool in summer, so that people can sleep at night; it is even so.

This summer I did not attend the B. Y. P. U. in Minneapolis, the Convention in San Francisco, or the Baptist Assembly at Iowa Falls. I kept right on at deputations work, and the Lord was with me, and I was very happy in this work.

It seems the pastors are not taking vacations this summer and therefore the churches are holding their usual prayer meetings and Sunday night services. This gives me a wonderful opportunity of getting foreign mission information and inspiration into them.

And it is really a great life, to be out in the work for God and to know He cannot fail. Then, occasionally, I find myself in a church where some missionary was born or raised, or did some kind of antics there when a boy. It does my soul good to find out that missionaries are real human folks.

And the name of the Lord is to be praised "from the rising of the sun to the going down thereof."

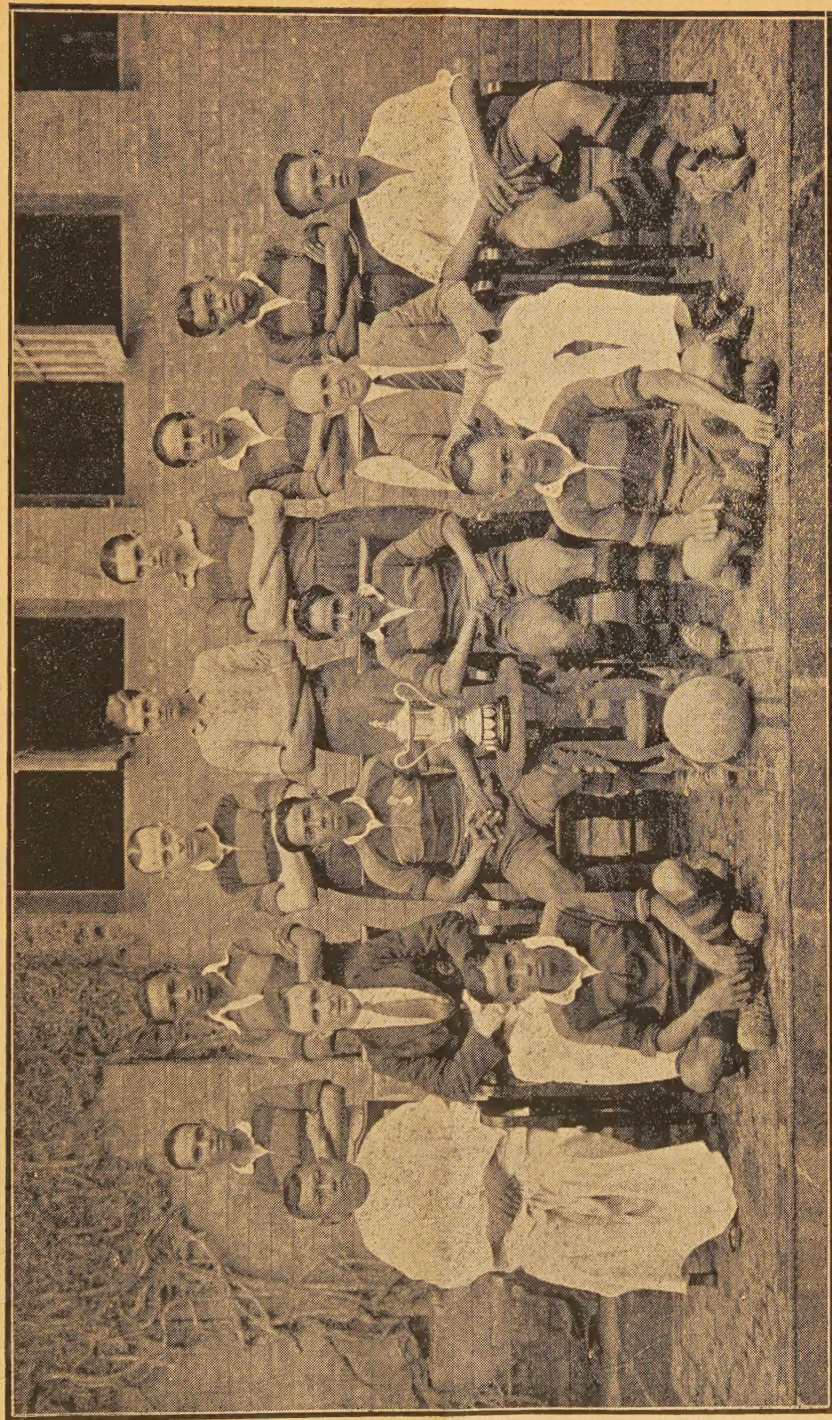
John Firth



"There are very, very few from whom we get that higher, deeper, broader help which it is the prerogative of true excellence in judgment to bestow; help to discern, through the haste and insistence of the present, what is its real meaning and its just demand; help to give due weight to what is reasonable, however unreasonable it may be stated or defended; help to reverence alike the sacredness of a great cause and the sacredness of each individual life, to adjust the claims of general rule and special equity; help to carry with one conscientiously, on the journey toward decision, all the various thoughts that ought to tell upon the issue; help to keep consistency from hardening to obstinacy, and common sense from sinking into timidity; help to think out one's duty as in a still, pure air, sensitive to all true signs and voices of this world, and yet unshaken by its storms."

Studies in the Christian Character,

—Bishop Page



Back row, left to right—R. Unger, Mg Maung, W. Shead, J. Cole, J. Duckworth, A. Jubbar and Than Maung.
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